





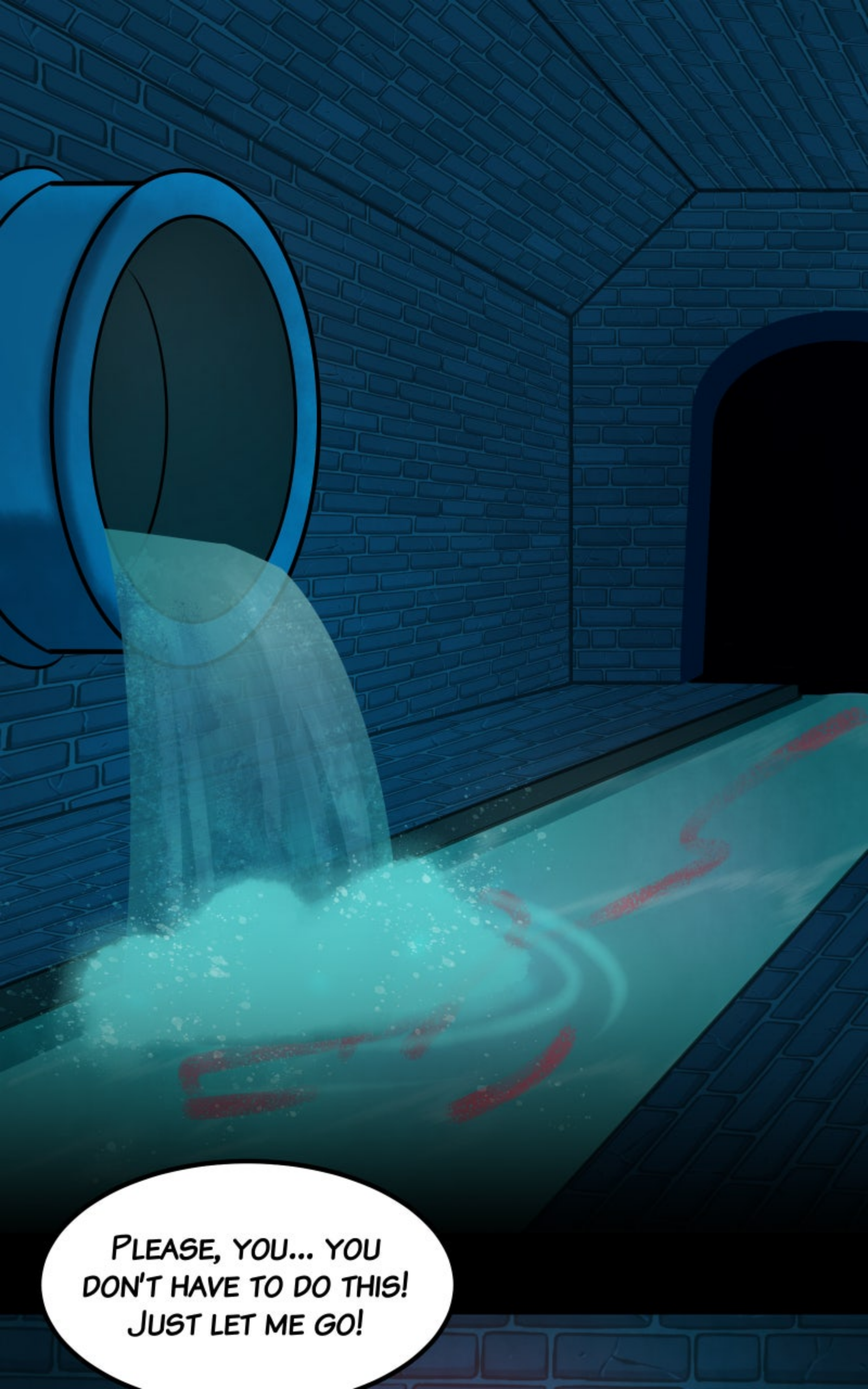












PLEASE, YOU... YOU
DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS!
JUST LET ME GO!



I'M AFRAID I CAN'T
DO THAT. YOU TOOK
SOMETHING THAT WASN'T
YOURS. YOU MUST HAVE
KNOWN THERE'D BE
CONSEQUENCES.







THIS ALL ENDS
IF YOU GIVE ME WHAT I
WANT. I CAN'T PROMISE
TO LET YOU LIVE, BUT I
DO PROMISE TO MAKE IT
QUICK.





UNH!



WHAT, YOU
THOUGHT WE'D LEAVE
YOU BEHIND? YOU GOT
NOTHING TO WORRY
ABOUT, KID...



WE'LL

HANDLE
THIS.



FOR LEON...

YOU'LL BE JOINING
HIM SOON ENOUGH.







ACK!



CLINK





YOU NEVER
SHOULD HAVE PUT
YOUR FILTHY HANDS
ON ME. NOW I'LL MAKE
YOU SUFFER.





RUN,
NADIA!

BU--

RUN!







WELL, C'MON
THEN! I'M NOT GOING
DOWN EASY! YOU'RE
GOING TO HAVE TO
EARN IT!











I MADE THE
ONLY DECISION
I COULD.

WELL IT WAS THE
WRONG ONE! WE WOULD
HAVE HAD HER IF YOU'D
HELPED ME! NOW WE'VE
GOT NOTHING!



YOU DON'T THINK

I'M ANGRY? LOOK
AROUND! THE SKULLGIRL
DEVASTATED THIS PLACE...
MURDERED DOZENS OF
PEOPLE!



BUT IF YOU'LL RECALL,
WE DID HAVE A PLAN,
AND IT WAS **WORKING!**
WOULD HAVE, IF YOU
HADN'T PUSHED HER OUT
OF THE WAY!



SO MAYBE THE
QUESTION YOU SHOULD BE
ASKING ISN'T WHY I SAVED
PEOPLE IN NEED, BUT WHY
YOU FELT THE NEED TO SAVE
THE SKULLGIRL.





YOU... YOU--



FORGET IT!
I KNEW WORKING
WITH YOU ROYALS
WAS A MISTAKE!

A comic book panel with a dark blue background. In the foreground, Peacock, a character with blue skin, orange hair, and a large purple top hat with a red bow, is shown from the chest up. She has a determined, slightly angry expression. She is holding a mechanical device with three circular lenses. In the background, a large, green, cylindrical mechanical structure with a yellow top and a small figure on top is visible. To the right, a character with long red hair and a black outfit stands with arms crossed. A large white hand is visible in the bottom right corner. Two speech bubbles are present: one on the left and one in the center.

I'LL HANDLE
THE SKULLGIRL
MY WAY, ON MY
OWN!

PEACOCK,
DON'T...



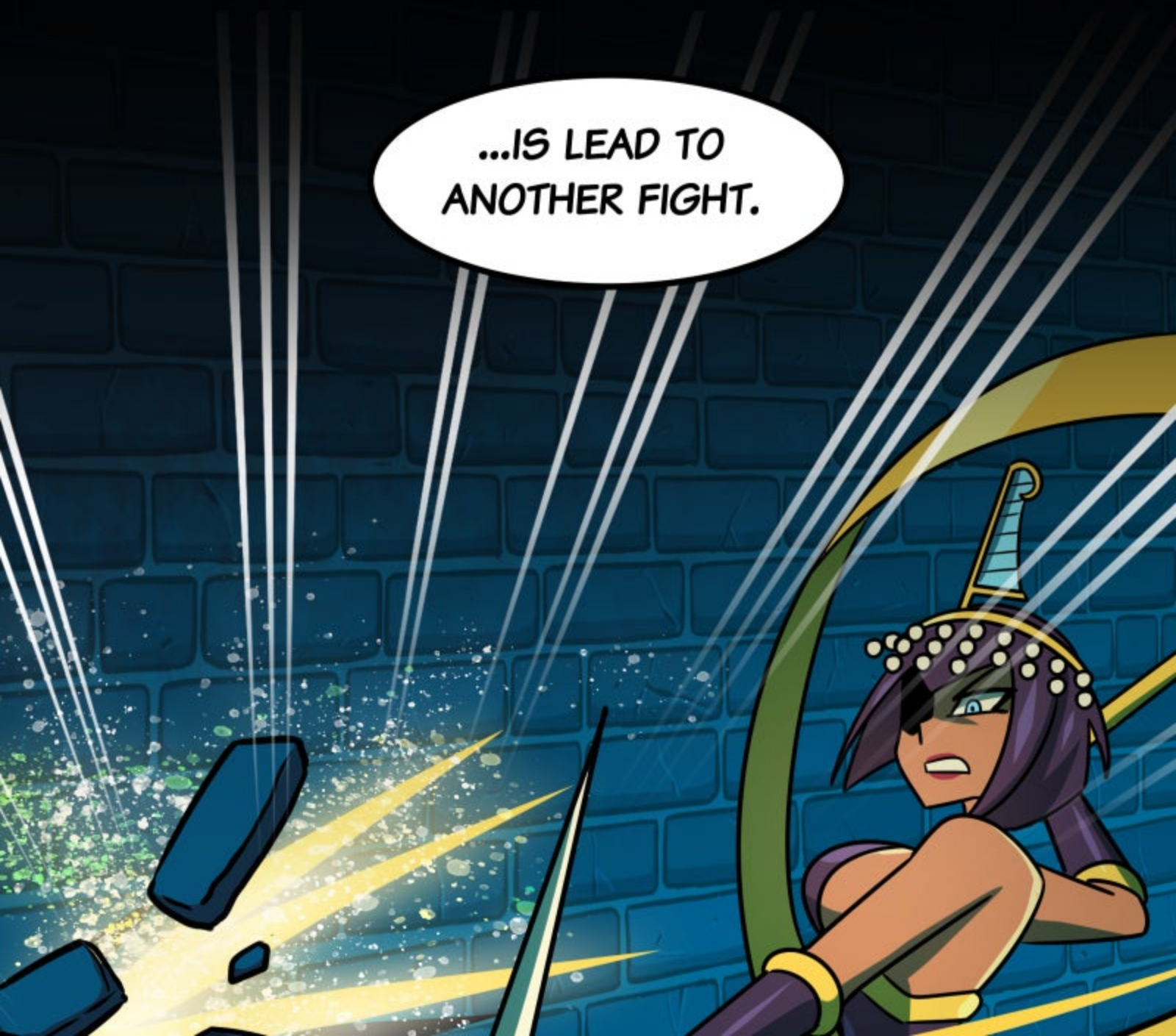
BIG BAND,
STOP.

A comic book panel. In the upper right, a speech bubble contains the text "BIG BAND, STOP." Below this, a character wearing a tan hat and a white mask with a large circular opening is lying down, looking towards the right. In the lower right, a character with long red hair and a black turtleneck with a white cross on the chest is standing, looking up at the first character with a concerned expression. A speech bubble from the red-haired character contains the text "GIVE HER TIME. YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING FOR HER RIGHT NOW. AND IF YOU TRY, I'M AFRAID ALL IT'LL DO...". The background is a dark blue wall with a light green horizontal band.

GIVE HER TIME.
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING
FOR HER RIGHT NOW.
AND IF YOU TRY, I'M
AFRAID ALL IT'LL DO...



...IS LEAD TO
ANOTHER FIGHT.















WHAT WAS
THAT?

HOW SHOULD

I KNOW, JUST
KEEP RUNNING!







YOU GOING
TO STAND THERE
GAWKING, OR ARE YOU
GOING TO HELP?



WHAT... WHAT
DID YOU DO?





SO YOU
GOT THE
GEM?

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?
I'VE EXTERMINATED SOME
PESTS, AND RECLAIMED
LORENZO'S PROPERTY.



A comic panel featuring two characters against a blue brick wall. On the left, a character with teal hair and a yellow and orange outfit looks angry. On the right, a character in a dark blue and white outfit with a feathered headdress looks smug. The character on the right has a large, bloody wound on their chest and is holding a mechanical device. Two speech bubbles are present.

NO, IT
ISN'T HERE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN
IT'S NOT HERE?!

JUST WHAT I SAID.
THIS BOTHERSOME
CREATURE SAID SHE
HAD IT.

AND YOU WENT
AND KILLED HER
BEFORE YOU FOUND
OUT FOR SURE?





OH, IS THAT ALL!?
OR MAYBE SHE
TOSSED IT IN THE
WATER AND IT'S AT
THE BOTTOM OF THE
RIVER BY NOW!

IT'S FINE. SHE
MUST HAVE STASHED
IT SOMEWHERE NEARBY.
WE JUST NEED TO
SEARCH.

THERE'S ONLY
ONE WAY TO



UGH,
FINE!

FIND OUT.





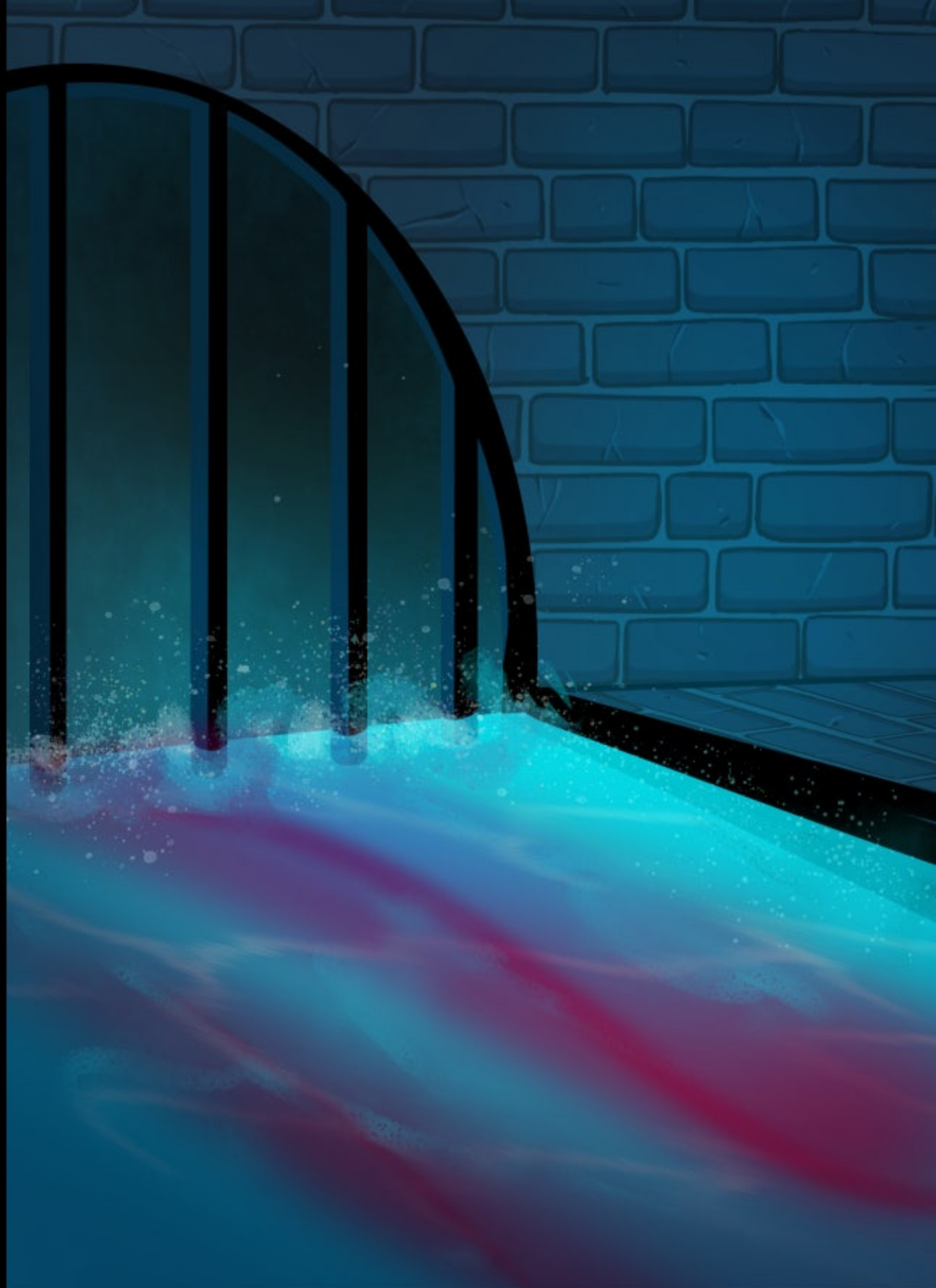
LET'S GO,
ELIZA! WE'VE
GOT TO FIND
THAT GEM!

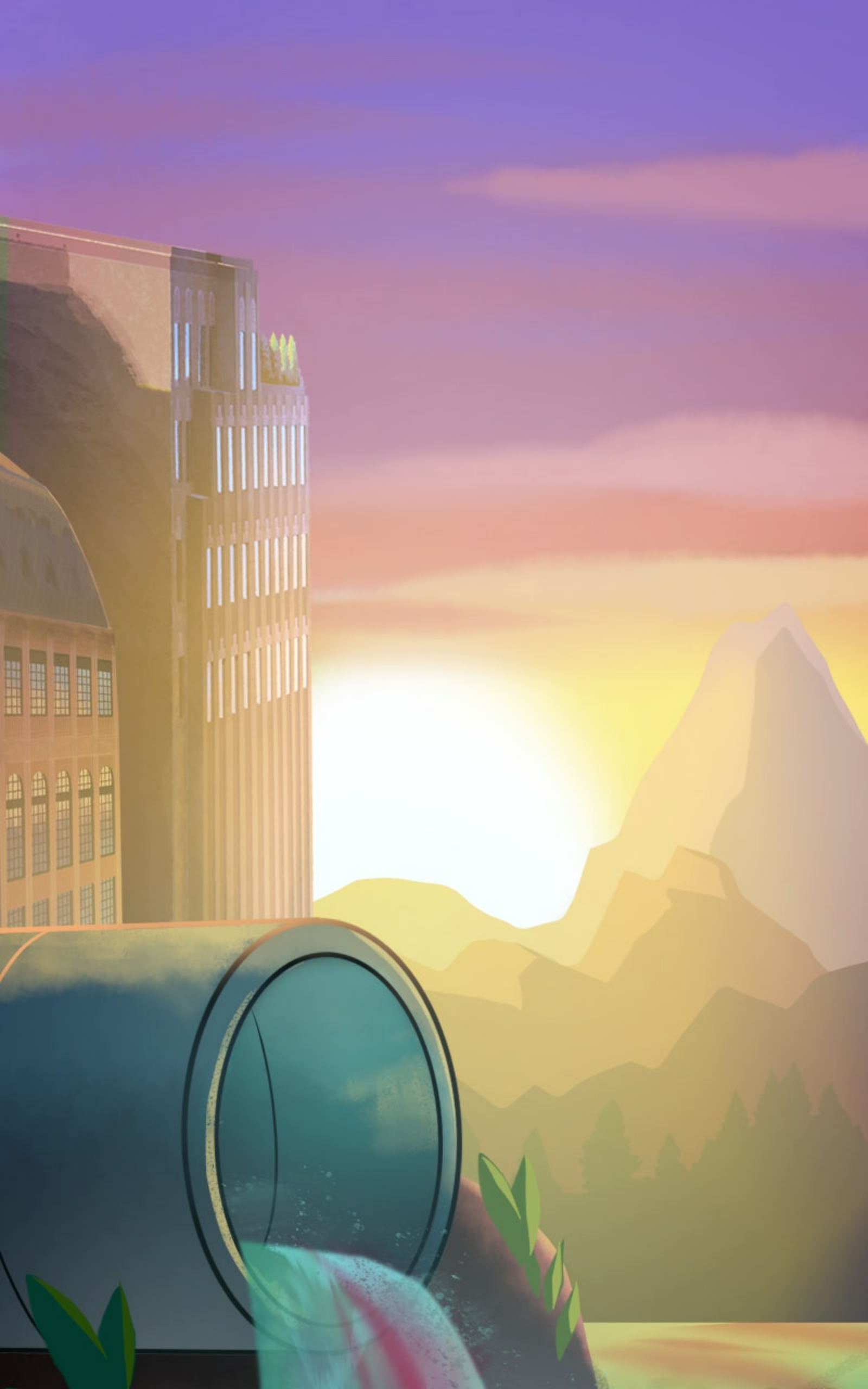




MM, YES.
YES, ON
MY WAY.



















✧ CREDITS ✧



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